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THE SOUTHWESTERN

Serving the campus body of Southwestern Oklahoma State University

93rd YEAR No. 18

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

8 pages

Sneak Peek

News

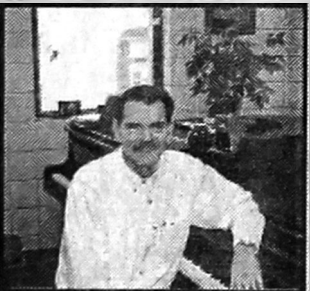


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Students receiving financial aid on the rise: deadlines for application, scholarships coming up

By MARIA MILLSAP/ STAFF REPORTER

The amount of financial aid Southwestern students receive has increased 52 percent since 1995.

"This is due to more student awareness of financial aid and what they

can apply for," said Thomas Ratliff, financial aid director.

The OLAP scholarship and the OHLAP plus has seen a 100 percent increase since 1995. Other aid that has gone up are Pell grants, 69 percent; and OTAG, 60 percent.

Southwestern is one of the faster schools in the state to get financial aid processed. Students can bring their FAFSA directly into the office and the office staff will mail it.

"We are the only school in

Oklahoma that does that," Ratliff said. "We are current to the day at processing and we haven't been backlogged for the past four years." Ratliff also said that sending a FAFSA over the web is a good idea because it's faster.

"Students want answers and the goal in our office is to give them answers," Ratliff said.

Deadlines for two scholarships, the freshman wavier scholarship and the foundation office scholarship, are March 1.

Study aids...

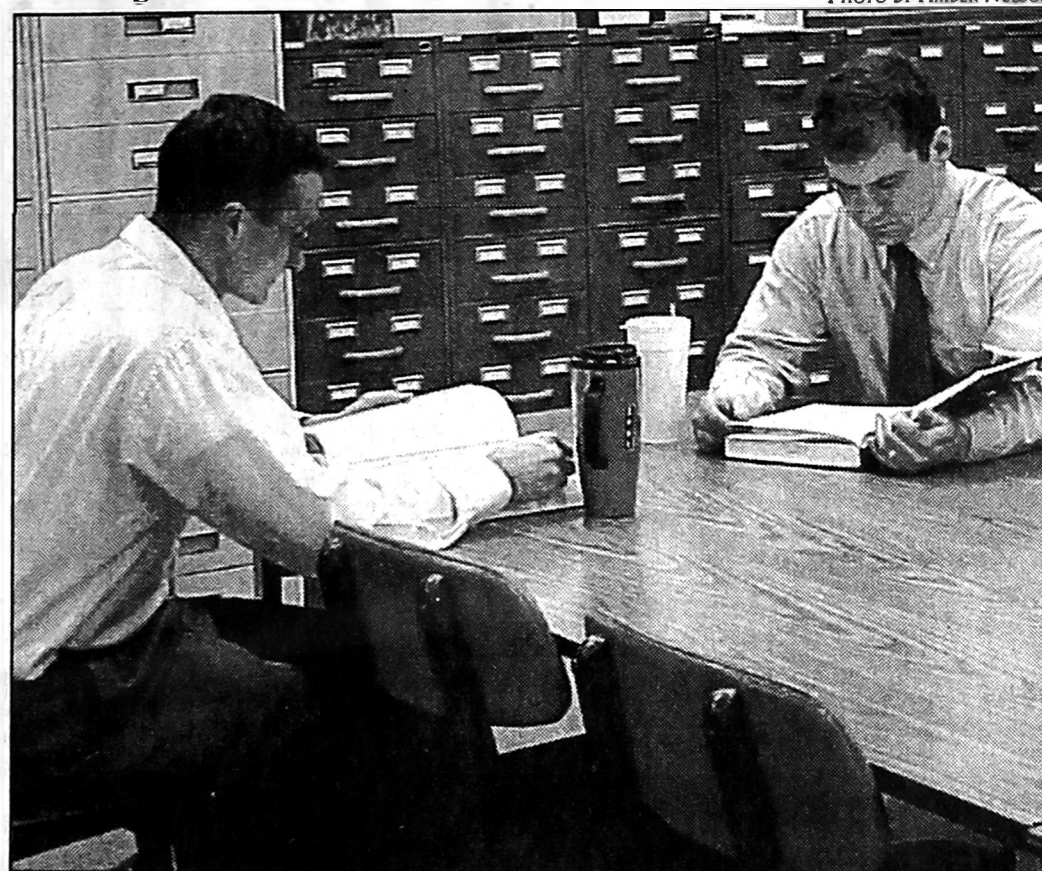


PHOTO BY AMBER NELSON

Business associate Jon Chiappe and graduate student Stephen Nelson are aided by a few refreshments while tackling some research in the Al Harris Library.

Library allows snacks, drinks

By JESSICA CHESKO/ STAFF REPORTER

Southwestern's Al Harris library now allows food and drinks for the first time ever. Students can have snacks in the library with only a few restrictions. The new policy is already in place.

"This is a trial period we are willing to try," library director Don Gilstrap said. Snacks such as crackers, potato chips, and candy

bars are some foods allowed.

However, this does not mean students can bring burgers and fries from the Student Union Grill. Closed drink containers such as bottled water or soda are allowed, but no open containers can be brought in.

Also, students are asked to keep the food and drinks away from the computers. They can be placed on the

floor next to the computer.

Students are encouraged to be courteous and clean up after themselves in order to keep the policy in effect.

"With the new policy we are trying to make it a fun place to hang out and a more enjoyable study for the students to experience," Gilstrap said.

Stratton Taylor at Higher Education Day:

'Rural higher education needs to be addressed'

By JON OWENS/ FEATURES EDITOR

Over a thousand students and administrators gathered at the Oklahoma State Capitol Feb. 19 to rally for Higher Education. Representatives from Southwestern were Dr. John Hays, university president, Dr. Paulette Woods, associate provost for student services, and Andrea Ward, student government president.

The contingent heard a rallying cry for rural education from Senate president Stratton Taylor.

"Rural Higher Education needs to be addressed. We need funding. We need to stop dividing the state between rural and urban," Taylor said.

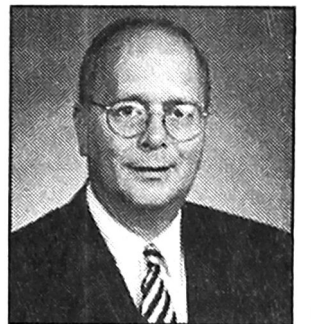
New ideas are being approached to address budget cutbacks, the main topic of the day. A shortfall of \$70.5 million in state revenue has led to a reduction of \$9 million for fiscal year 2001. High education is also facing a \$13.9 million reduction for fiscal year 2002. Other states in budget trouble have consolidated or the closed institutions, but Oklahoma is not considering either.

"I see having an abundance of independent colleges making higher education more accessible to people throughout the state. I do not see a need for consolidation," said representative Jack Bonny, vice chairman of the Appropriations and Budget Committee.

The Oklahoma State Regents have requested \$174 million in new state funds for higher education. The key component of the request included support for new faculty positions, staff and salary increases, library acquisitions, information technology needs, and additional funds for institutions that have experienced substantial enrollment growth.

Governor Frank Keating also addressed the assembly, promoting his keys to education's success.

"The key to Oklahoma's success is productivity and education so we are told be economists," Keating said. "The way for Oklahoma to survive is to adopt a consumption tax which will eliminate income tax. Our education standards must be raised by approving the four by four plan. One day it will come down to the educated versus the uneducated."



Stratton Taylor

SW alum achieves a working man's success

By KATHY BRAUCHI/ NEWS EDITOR

Bob Mills (a.k.a. "the working man's friend") is well known across the state of Oklahoma. Aside from owning a very successful furniture store, he is also a college graduate of none other than Southwestern.

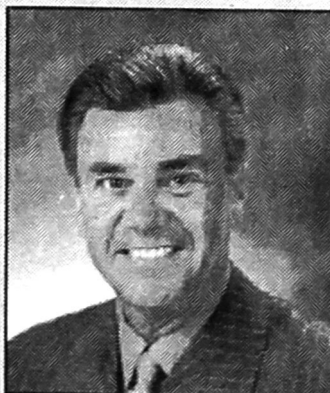
Mills graduated from Southwestern in 1969 with a degree in instrumental music and business management. He said life after graduation was very stressful because he was unable to find a job.

"The morning following graduation is when the real world actually sets in," Mills said.

Mills said one day, while struggling to find a job, he ran into an old high school friend who offered Mills a job as a clerk typist at an insurance company.

"At that time I was making \$375 a month and was glad to get it because I had no money," Mills said.

Mills worked at the insurance company for two years, until another opportunity arose.



"An agent at the insurance company had a furniture business," Mills said. "He told me that's where the money is, so I decided to give it a shot."

In 1971, Mills bought an old IGA store on Southwest 29th street in his hometown of Oklahoma City, and the rest is history. The next year his partner decided to move on and the business became known as Bob Mills Furniture. In 1986, he opened the store at 3600 West Reno, which is the current location.

Mills said his experience at Southwestern was a big influence on his success.

"Coming from a big city,

...Mills on page 3

So far from home

International students find way to western plains

By KRISTEN ROLIN/ STAFF REPORTER

Have you ever wondered how students from halfway across the world find their way to Southwestern? The road to Weatherford is as simple as a click of a mouse.

"Most students find us on the internet," said Bob Klaassen, director of admissions. "They see that we are more reasonably priced than schools on the East or West coasts, or they know someone who has gone to Southwestern." There are 108 international students this semester representing 34 countries. The most represented countries are Zambia, Indonesia and India.

International students must meet the same admissions requirements as all students. They must score a 500 or higher on the TOEFL-the Test of English as a Foreign Language- and show proof of a financial sponsor, usually a parent.

The scholars must get a student visa, and promise to return back to their home countries after graduation, though that does not always

happen. The INS allows students to work in the United States for one year before going home.

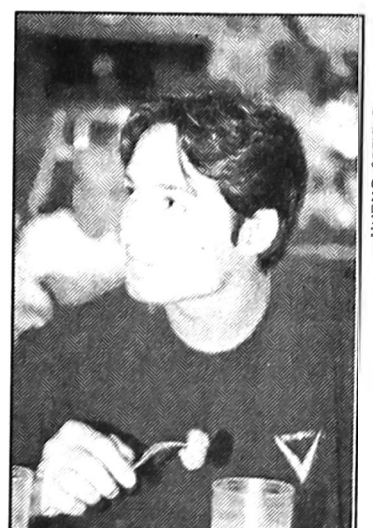
Yoni Vejsiu, a political science major from Albania, came to the United States as an exchange student at Corn during her senior year of high school. She heard of Southwestern from her house parents, who attended college here.

Vejsiu decided to attend college in the United States because she was doing well in school and enjoying her experience. She said her house parents made it possible for her to stay.

"I love the professors here at Southwestern and the people are very friendly," Vejsiu said. "The faculty and staff have been very helpful. I couldn't have had a better experience at a bigger school. I feel more at home here."

This is Vejsiu's third year at Southwestern. After graduation, she would like to work for an international company either in Europe or the United States.

Eloisa Tovar is a freshman elementary education major from Mexico. She heard of



Millions of international students travel halfway across the globe to attend U.S. universities.

Southwestern from her sister, a Southwestern graduate. Tovar attended high school at Valley Baptist Academy in Huntington, Texas.

"I'm not sure if I will go back to Mexico after graduation or if I will stay here," Tovar said. "My goal for now is to finish college and get my degree."

Tovar also enjoys the small size of Southwestern. "It is easier to get to know people at a small school. I also feel more at home."

PHOTO BY CAELUS GAUNA

Faculty Spotlight

Dr. James Breckinridge

By Jon Owens/Features Editor

A heavenly sound of music plays throughout the halls of the music building coming from Dr. James Breckinridge's studio.

"I have been enthralled at making music at the piano since I was a teenager," Breckenridge said.

Not only is Breckenridge a professor, he is also a concert pianist who has played literally all over the world.

"My favorite trip was the tour I did in Russia in 1993. I loved playing at the Tchiakvsky Hall in Moscow. I would say the best overall concert was a benefit concert done in Minsk, Belarusa. The proceeds went to benefit the children of Chernobyl. It was a huge cathedral with marvelous sound effects, where I was able to meet lots of high officials such as the American ambassador," said Breckenridge.

Although he is famous for his playing ability, Breckenridge is quick to point out he is not an artist, but an interpreter.

"An artist creates," he said. "I am interpreting in my way something that was created by someone else. I interpret through my own thoughts and feelings which I feel are very much his.

"Liszt is my favorite artist," Breckenridge also noted. "I have a personal relationship with the man musically. His goals, his aspirations and his demands are similar to mine. I have been told I even have his shape of hand."

Outside the classroom, Breckenridge has other interests such as bowling, reading and traveling.

"I am a big Tom Clancy reader. I love investigative stories. It has a lot to do with the tech-thriller. I still love to read old classics such as Chaucer's Canterbury Tales," Breckenridge said.

"Out of all the places I have traveled, the Orient has been the most intriguing. The place I loved the most, though, was Kauai in Hawaii. It was a place I could totally let go and escape from the world. We all know sun is fun."

Breckenridge has one companion in life which is his cat Lucky.

"Lucky is my buddy. He crawled up in the hood of my truck five years ago here at SWOSU and ended up riding home with me. So in essence he adopted me," Breckenridge said.

Currently Breckenridge has held all officer positions on the Oklahoma Music Teachers Association, and is founder of the Oklahoma Beethoven's society.

"Teaching is in your blood. I feel I have a contract with the students and that has been what has kept me here so long," Breckenridge said.

How does he feel about being the second most senior faculty in the university? His response was a big smile and laugh.

"Seeing small steps is the big thrill for me and watching the individuality unfold among the students. To me that is worth more than any money," Breckenridge said.

"I would like to see the university to be continuous of the highest quality of education that the institution can provide in all areas in disciplines," he said.

"The endless support here is phenomenal. I have seen in my work that students, colleagues, administration, and the community support this school. Southwestern has always given me meaning and made me feel as if I have a purpose."



USAO offers writing symposium for teachers

By Jill Weber/News Editor

The University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma is holding its Seventh Annual Writing Symposium on Friday, March 8.

The conference is for high school and college English teachers. College students who are majoring in English education are also encouraged to attend. The conference will be held at USAO in Chickasha from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The focus this year will be on collaborative writing. The keynote speaker, Dr. Pamela B. Childers, is a well-known composition scholar who has investigated collaboration writing.

Her keynote address, "Give and Take: Working Collaboratively to Improve Student Learning," will focus on

the different kinds of collaboration and the values of each. Childers is the Caldwell Chair of Composition at the McCallie School in Chattanooga and is a frequent consultant and presenter on composition.

The remainder of the day will be spent in small group discussions on collaboration writing and in workshops to apply the ideas Childers has presented. It is asked that teachers bring their favorite lessons (especially those that involve collaboration) and 20 copies to share with others.

The registration fee is \$10, which includes lunch. Teachers must pre-register by March 1. For registration forms and any other information, call Dr. Brenda Brown at (405) 574-1207 or e-mail facbrownbr@usao.edu.

Nail to attend training institute in psychology

By Kristen Rolin/Staff Reporter

Dr. Paul Nail, psychology professor, has been selected to attend the Advanced Training Institute in Social Psychology. He is one of 15 participants selected from across the United States. The institute will train researchers on using the Internet to conduct research and collect data.

"Using the internet will make it easier to get research participants," Nail said. "Usually a researcher is limited to those people in the local program. The internet will give more world wide access and diversity to participants."

The institute is funded by the National Science Foundation and will be held at the University of California - Fullerton in August.

Nail has been active in writing and research since 1977 when he was a graduate student in psychology at Southwestern. He attributes his acceptance into the institute in part to his research activity.

"It is important to stay current and productive in your research," Nail said.

Nail was also recently inducted into the Society of Experimental Social Psychology, a professional honor society. Membership into the society is voted on by a panel of judges and limited to those whose writing and research have made a contribution to knowledge in the field of social psychology.

Nail finds his work in research to be very fulfilling. "When you do a study and it comes out like you expected,



Dr. Paul Nail was recently selected to participate in an institute that trains participants for internet research.

it is rewarding," Nail said. "It shows that your understanding of the phenomena is correct. When the findings are not what you expected but still significant, it is still rewarding when you can come back and make sense of it."

Keating's years are over; Denny campaigns for governor

By Brent Hill/Staff Reporter

Governor Frank Keating's tenure as Oklahoma's governor will end this year. Keating has served his two terms in office. Keating was the first Republican to win two consecutive terms.

One candidate will be Republican Jim Denny. Denny announced on Feb. 12 that he will be seeking the nomination for governor.

Denny's "For the People" campaign tour of Oklahoma expresses his awareness and connection with the people. Visiting with people in 62 cities and towns and 31 countries this past year, has given Jim a good indication of the peoples concerns.

"Accountability equals credibility," Denny said.

Denny's goals as governor are to return the government to the people and to get a good return on the citizens' tax dollars.

There are many people who feel that their votes do not count, and so they do not vote. Many other people feel that one vote can make a difference.

"You can't complain about things if you don't vote," said sophomore Kristen Miler when asked about why citizens should vote.

"If you don't vote then you have no say about the laws that govern the people. I plan on voting so that I can express my opinion on subjects that matter to me," said Matthew Thiessen, a junior from Corn.

Chapbook work sought

Submissions for Chapbook are being accepted through March 14. Chapbook is a student literary and art journal published every year. Submissions may consist of prose, poetry, short stories, black and white photographs, pen and ink artwork or charcoal artwork.

Submissions should be delivered to Campbell Building, Room 202.

Bulldog Bucks



SUMMER 2002 FINANCIAL AID

2002 Summer Semester aid eligibility is now being calculated by Student Financial Services. Contact our office giving us your name, social security number and intended hours of enrollment by coming to our office in Stafford Room #224, calling 580-774-3786 or by email at finaid@swosu.edu. Within a few days your financial aid award letter will be ready at our front reception counter or if you prefer will be mailed to you. This gives you what you need to know for budgeting summer school enrollment.

S.W.O.S.U. FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for this scholarship are available in the Foundation Office and the Office of Student Financial Services. The deadline to submit an application to the Foundation Office is this Friday, March 1, 2002. You must submit a current copy of your transcript and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credit hours. Continuing S.W.O.S.U. students, transfer students as well as resident and non-resident students may apply.

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF ACCOUNTS SCHOLARSHIP

The NSA Scholarship Foundation was formed in 1969 by the National Society of Accountants. It is a professional accounting association whose members serve the small business community as well as individuals. Undergraduate students majoring in accounting who have a "B" or better overall g.p.a. and are U.S. or Canadian citizens may apply for this scholarship. Visit the NSA website at www.nsacct.org

Brick deadline nears

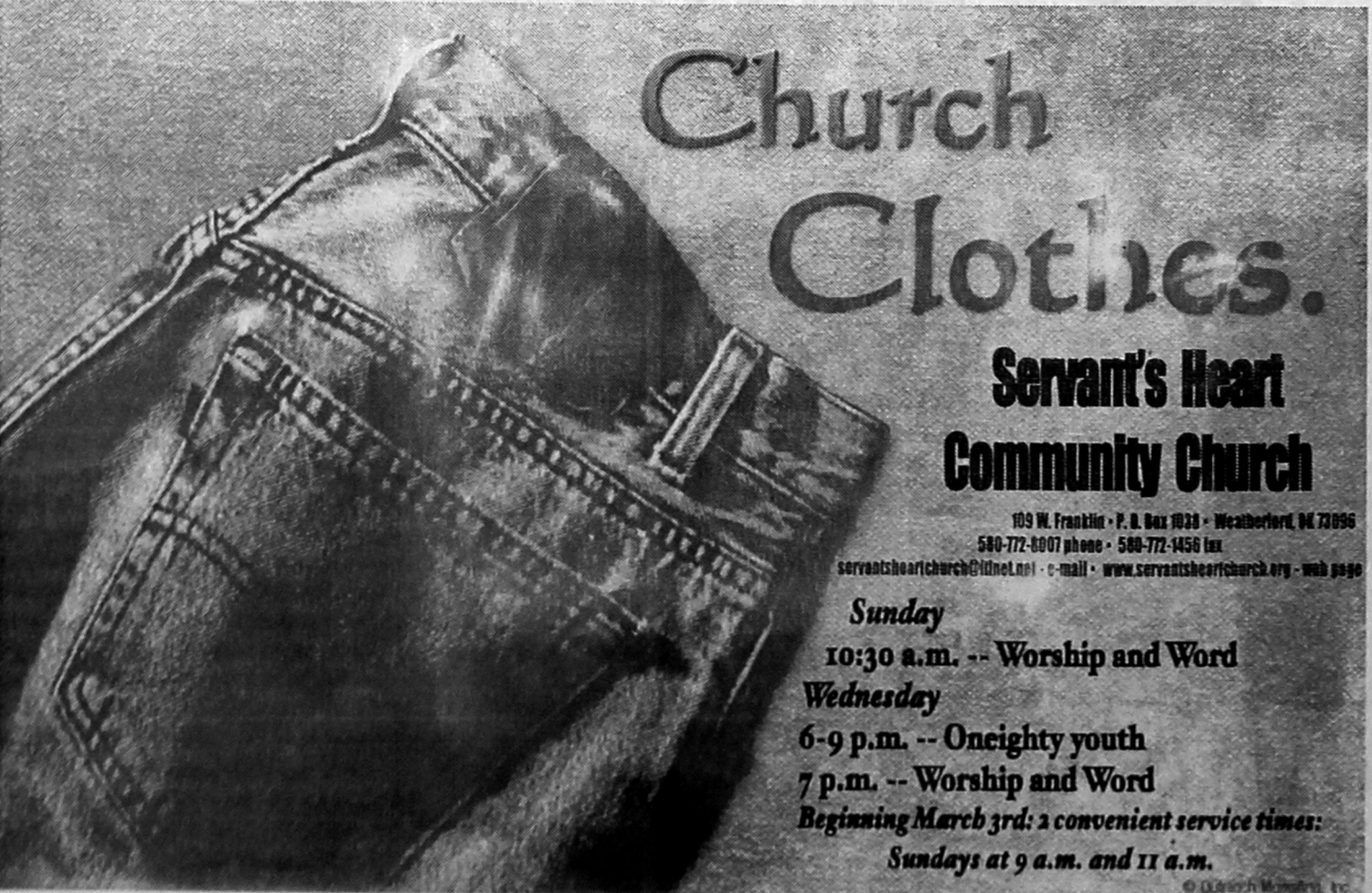
Construction of the Alumni Centennial Plaza will begin on May 13, and the Alumni Association has set a deadline of May 1 for friends and alumni to purchase bricks as part of the plaza.

The 5,000 square foot project will feature a four-sided clock tower and be located between the Al Harris Library and the Student Union.

Jim Waites, director of the SWOSU Alumni Association, said 997 bricks have already been sold and over \$148,000 has been raised toward the \$200,000 goal.

There are three sizes of bricks available. Costs are \$50 for a 4 X 8 size, \$100 for an 8 X 8, and \$500 for a 12 X 12 size brick. Current Southwestern students can purchase a 4 X 8 brick for \$30.

Additional information about the brick sales is available by calling the alumni office at 774-3267



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Wednesday
6-9 p.m. -- Oneighty youth
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THE SOUTHWESTERN is the student newspaper of Southwestern Oklahoma State University. It is published every Wednesday during the fall and spring semesters, except during holidays and finals week. Students in the editing class serve as section editors. The editorial board meets every Wednesday at 3 p.m. in the journalism lab, Campbell 211.

THE SOUTHWESTERN encourages comment from the student body, faculty, and administration in the form of letters to the editor. All letters must include a name for consideration; however, the name may be withheld upon request. Letters should be sent to The Southwestern, 100 Campus Drive, SWOSU, Weatherford, OK, 73096, 774-3065.

The opinions expressed within signed editorials are the opinions of the writers. The opinions expressed in unsigned, boxed editorials are the opinion of the staff. Neither is necessarily the opinion of the university administration, staff or faculty.

Habitat for Humanity looking for volunteers on Saturdays

By MARIA MILLSAP/ STAFF REPORTER

Are you looking for something to do on a Saturday? Do you want to make a difference in someone's life? If you answered yes to these questions, then you should check out Habitat for Humanity.

Habitat for Humanity is a non-denominational Christian-based group that helps families who can't afford to have a house buy one.

The houses are sold at no profit with no interest on the mortgage. There is a monthly payment for families. They can pay with sweat equity, which is where the

owner of the house actually helps with the building of their house.

Since 1976, Habitat has built more than 100,000 houses in more than 80 countries. Habitat does not discriminate against race, religion or ethnic group.

Families are chosen by need, ability to repay the no-profit-no-interest mortgage and willingness to work with Habitat for Humanity.

Dr. Kelley Logan has been working for Habitat for 10-12 years. "It gives you important life skills," Logan said. She is currently working on a house in Weatherford on Hiler Road. "It's so wonderful to give



someone a house," Logan said.

Habitat works all year around, unless the weather is bad.

The personal rewards are endless. "I drive by a house

I've worked on and say, 'That's my wall and those are my bricks,'" Logan said.

Habitat will be working on the house on Hiler Road every Saturday until it is finished.

No building skills are

needed. Lunch is usually provided by a church. If you would like to help with Habitat, you can contact Tamara Misack or go to www.habitat.org. Donations are always welcome.

ABC conference held on campus

By JILL WEBER/ NEWS EDITOR

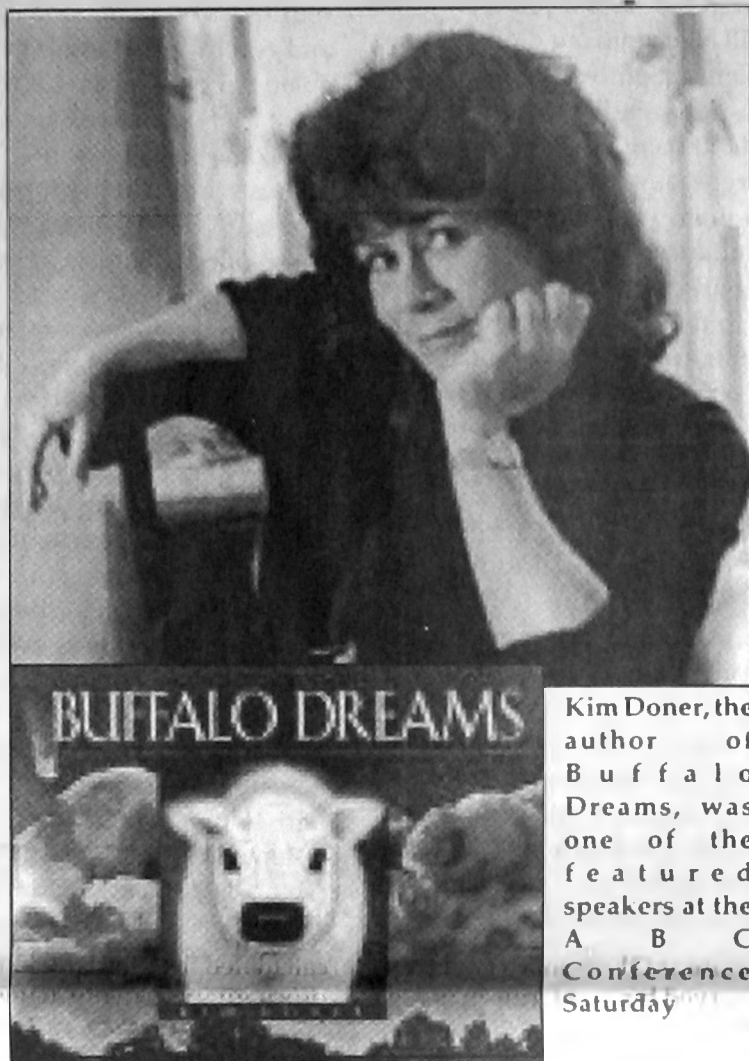
Four well-known children's book authors and illustrators gave presentations at the Authors/Illustrators of Books for Children Conference (ABC) on Saturday. The Southwestern Conference Center was the site for the ABC Conference that started at 8:30 a.m.

Featured speakers were Lisa Campbell Ernst, Mike Wimmer, Kim Doner and Karen Rogers.

Ernst of Kansas City is the author and illustrator of 21 children's picture books. These include *Ginger Jumps*, *Sam Johnson and the Blue Ribbon Quilt*, *When Bluebell Sang*, *Luckiest Kid on the Planet* and *The Letters are Lost*.

Wimmer, of Norman created the new Mr. Clean character and Simba on *Pride Rock* for the Lion King soundtrack packaging. He is the illustrator of *All the Places to Love*, *My Teacher is an Alien*, *Will Rogers*, *Flight*, *Home Run*, *Summertime* and *Train Song*.

Doner of Tulsa is the author and illustrator of *Buffalo Dreams*, as well as illustrator of *The Buffalo in the Mall*, *Q is for Quark: A Science Alphabet Book* and *The Philosophers' Club*.



Kim Doner, the author of *Buffalo Dreams*, was one of the featured speakers at the ABC Conference Saturday.

Rogers is the assistant professor at Newman University in Wichita, Kan. She is the author of *Good Thinking!*, *Yipes! Stripes!*, and *Can I Try*. She is also the author of several books in *The Think Kids* book collection published

by Creative Thinkers, Inc. Rogers also writes a regular column on children's books for the Edmond Sun.

The School of Education and the Southwestern chapter of Phi Delta Kappa sponsored the ABC Conference.

Club News

Spanish Club has big plans for the future

By BENJAMIN HAWKINS/ STAFF REPORTER

Spanish Club members are looking forward to a semester focused on community involvement as well as learning the language, says the organization's president Dixie Marr.

Marr hopes that members develop a "sense of community and school pride."

The club will participate in the Relay for Life and plans to have fund-raisers, such as a possible bake sale at Wal-Mart. A portion of the funds will also go to Habitat for Humanity to help build a home for a Spanish family in the area.

Club members also hope to sponsor a high school Spanish competition next year. For the competition, Marr says they will ask Spanish teachers to bring students. They also plan to recruit native Spanish speakers from the area to judge the events.

"Although the preparations will be difficult, it will really pay off," Marr said.

Organization leaders also hope for renewed interest in Spanish. "You can't learn language just by studying out of a book," said Marr.

Vice President Ivonna Hinton said, "I hope for people to be more aware and involved to learn Spanish." She says the club plans to meet to indulge in Spanish movies, cooking, and conversation.

According to Linda Hertzler-Crum, club sponsor, they will have a food and movie night sometime in April.

Hertzler-Crum has also encouraged language education majors to attend the Southwest Colt Conference, a regional conference for Spanish teachers. The conference occurs in Oklahoma City from March 7-9.

The next planned Spanish Club meeting is at noon March 6 in Campbell Building Room 210.

Mills (continued from page 1)

Weatherford showed me a new meaning of friendship," Mills said. "The people are very genuine."

As a music major at Southwestern, Mills considers his time spent in concert band as some of his most memorable moments. He said along with the enjoyment of performing, it was also a learning experience.

"The director at the time was a task master," Mills said. "He was very tough, but an incredible director. He taught me perfection."

Mills said he believes his learned perfection has attributed to his success in the furniture business.

"When I was in college, I was striving to be a better musician," Mills said. "That taught me to work hard a be competitive in order to be successful."

Although Mills is successful today, he wishes he had more background in education.

He said he would've enjoyed furthering his education if he hadn't have begun his furniture franchise. He said it would be nice to have a job with intangible inventory such as a doctor or a lawyer.

"I would love to have a law degree because it teaches you to think," Mills said.

Mills was honored at Southwestern's centennial alumni as a distinguished graduate and attended the parade and football game.

"I try to come back as often as I can," Mills said. "Homecoming is a day for rekindling old friendships and laughing about stories of the past, so I enjoy it very much."

Mills said college was a very important part of his life and believes it molds a person's future.

"I encourage students to enjoy college and realize that college is the best four years of your life, even though it is stressful at times."

SGA CORNER

By Clay Pope

WEEKLY FEATURE OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT HAPPENINGS

• Attention!! Any undecided major or graduate student interested in becoming a member of SGA please contact any member of the Senate or Executive Council.

• If any organization is interested in donating money to a Juke Box that will be placed in the

University Grill, Please contact Janet Pelzel at 774-0615.

• SWOSU palooza plans are quickly coming together. If you would like to be a part of the planning committee, join us at the SGA House Mondays at 8:00 p.m. We will be putting the line-up together very soon!

• Any organization (or just a group of friends) interested in participating in this year's American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, please contact Amber Devoss at 774-0615.

If you want a SWOSU Spirit shirt call Brandi McNair @ 774-6533. Each shirt costs \$8.00

Crime Reports are provided by the SWOSU Campus Police Department. For further campus crime information, please visit www.swosu.edu/depts/safety/stats.htm or contact Don Groth at the Campus Police Department.

compiled by
Janet Pelzel

Hall's IGA

Student Day

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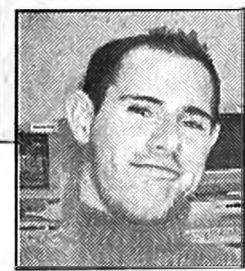
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“Let’s Talk”
JILL WEBER/ NEWS EDITOR

**The best time of our
lives...right now!**

It’s getting to be that time of year when all seniors are trying to focus on graduation. I, however, have one more semester to enjoy being a college student. (Yes, I’ve been a slacker over the past few years!) I’m ready to graduate and join the real world and start doing what I love to do. However, I’m going to miss skipping class to sleep late, staying up all night to finish a paper I should have started weeks ago, and especially seeing all the great friends I have made over the last four years. Friendships are the best thing in the world to me. No matter how happy or stressed I am, I always have my buds to laugh and cry with. College is one of the best places to make life-long friendships, and if you’re like me, you still have many of your friends from high school, too. Not all friendships



“Perspectives”
JON OWENS/ FEATURES EDITOR
**Get your own story
to tell!**

Have you often had someone talk to you in behalf of another person? Don’t you find that quite annoying? It is all a result of “You know you get on Billy Bob’s nerves.” Don’t you ever wonder why “Billy Bob” doesn’t answer for himself. I think this is a result of serious interpersonal communication problems. If you ever played the game telephone when you were little you can remember that the story is only ten percent accurate by the time you are done. By then the story has grown to be such a big deal someone is liable to get mad and has blown the story out of proportion. My priest is a good person who catches me on this issue when I am telling her about someone. Her response is: “That is not your story to tell.” Another common example is: “I asked John Doe if you did a good job on helping clean up. He said that you did not.” Well if “John Doe” did not like the job then it is between him and me and the third person has no business intervening unless asked. Why is it that people feel it is their common job to stick their nose in something they are not involved in? Why do they feel they have to answer for someone else? There are times I have to bite my tongue before I want to just tell my friends off. I mean I could totally start doing the same thing to them. I could start telling “Sue” about all the people that she bothers. Or I could start following up on what “Betsy” is doing and seeing if people are satisfied with her work performance. The truth is it is better to not sink yourself down to their level. Just smile and nod. Occasionally remind them it is not their story to tell and to have them speak for themselves and not others.

keep the pizzazz they once had, though. My best friend from high school was my roommate my freshman year at Southwestern. After two semesters of absolute fun and chaos, she chose to transfer to OSU. (Why, I don’t know.) We didn’t see each other as much. Phone conversations became shorter and vacations from each other became longer. The only time I see her now is over the holidays in Okeene (yes, I’m from the big town of Okeene), or when No Justice plays at J. C. Cowboys. We still talk like best friends, but you can imagine that it’s not the same at all. I guess I’m hoping that all the friends I have made in college will still be there when we graduate and go our different ways. I’ll definitely keep in touch, but how often I’ll keep in touch will be the main question. There have been so many great memories throughout these past four years. Although some are very blurry because they were spent at Cowboys, Roscoe’s, and numerous house parties, everything I’ve done and been a part of has been a learning experience that will stay with me for the rest of my life. Everyone needs to have special friends that will be there for them no matter where they go or what they do. These friends are the ones you can count on. They are what make life fun and worth living.

**From
the
Mailbox**



It’s OK to take a day off

Here we are, halfway through the second semester of the school year. By now we have all fallen into our daily routines. If you are like most students here at Southwestern, you have probably settled into something very similar to the following: You wake up to an alarm at 7:00 a.m. and hit the snooze button—a process which you repeat every nine minutes until approximately 7:45, at which point you stumble out of bed while hoarsely cursing the audacity of a school that could schedule a math class at the butt crack of dawn. You then make your blurry-eyed way to the shower, throw on some clothes (changing twice if female), make an attempt at fixing your hair (several attempts if female), and head out the door already late. Sometimes you even manage to eat breakfast. Throughout the day you go from class to class, listen to lectures, and take notes, all while trying desperately to stay awake. With each class you attend, one more assignment is packed into your evening agenda. There’s already a paper due next week in English, a report due tomorrow in psychology, and a test in less than a half an hour over some war that somebody else fought in another country two hundred years ago. The assignments are piling up, there’s no time for anything, and everything is starting to run together. If there isn’t a break soon, some history professor is going to receive an algebra assignment written in iambic pentameter over the marginal cost of the periodic table. Sound familiar? It might just be time for an unscheduled day off. Staying focused can be extremely difficult when you feel bogged down with a grueling routine, especially when summer isn’t quite as near as it should be. At this point in the semester it’s perfectly normal to feel a bit like a hamster running in a wheel. It’s easy to get frustrated and sometimes it’s hard to stay focused. Keeping your nose to the grindstone is

Twist it girl!



At a recent OL retreat, Erin Layton (back) and Erin Bagwell (front) compete in a Twister competition.

commendable and it is important to stay on top of your classes. However, spreading yourself thin will only make you tired, irritable, and more likely to be inflicted with serious bodily harm by your roommate. Staying focused at the expense of your own health and sanity might not be such a good idea. The best way to find relief from the monotony of your routine is to break the routine. So take off for a day and do something else. Get up and get out; go fishing or go shopping. Take a nap; take a hike, or *anything*—whatever it is that you do. The most important thing is to take some time for you. Things will be better when you come back to them. Most professors probably wouldn’t agree, but it isn’t necessarily wrong to take a day off every once in a while, even from college. Studies have shown that a short vacation may actually improve the work level of an individual. That’s why many employers are now required to allow workers to schedule a limited amount of vacation days at their own discretion. If a break in your normal routine will make you a happier, more relaxed person, then by all means take it. Pay attention to your own needs. You are the best judge of your own capabilities, limits, and breaking points. There are, of course, those certain individuals who need absolutely no coaxing to take a “vacation” or two (or three) at their own whim. For those of you who usually jump at any excuse to skip school (you know who you are), please be advised that this is NOT a permission slip or a challenge to play hooky. Missing school on a consistent basis can definitely have serious consequences. If lectures are missed, notes must be made up. If tests are missed, grades can be jeopardized, and if too many classes are skipped, a student can be automatically dropped and/or failed. Missing a class certainly isn’t always the solution. Keep in mind that class work doesn’t go away just because you don’t go to class. You may also consider that you might need a cushion day later on. Most professors will not penalize a student for missing only one or two classes, so keep track of your absences and use them wisely. An extra day away from ordinary pressures can help us to function properly. A day off may actually enhance the ability to handle everyday tasks by allowing us to step back and put things into proper perspective. Sometimes it’s a bit easier to get around when we aren’t so worn down by trifles and most of us agree that we could use a day or two for ourselves. So, if you’re feeling bogged down, you might ask yourself just how much you might benefit from a day off. If you think that a day away from your studies will help your progress, you may be right.

—Joseph Nicholson
sophomore

A time to upgrade?

When comparing the availability of certain technological resources to Southwestern students to other state students, our dear university is certainly lacking. The most glaringly apparent deficiency is access to the internet in locations other than overcrowded computer lab and the restrictive library systems. With the up incoming pervasiveness of portable computers, students are pondering where they are able to use this potent tool about campus. The solution around many regional educational facilities is docking stations, basically a study area with an electrical outlet and network access to the internet. These docking stations have the ability to take the load off the noisy and increasingly overfilled computer lab. The second often associative source of angst from students living on campus is the phone lines within the dorms. These lines are unable to accommodate today’s basic dial-up speed of 53.3 kilobytes per second. Typically, they are bottlenecked at a measly 26.4 kps transfer speed. This leaves many students online tying up the *single* phone line for much longer than otherwise necessary, a source of frustration for residents, family, and friends. The third observation is more surveillance based than proven fact. Often when in the computer lab, nowadays after Economics on Tuesday and Thursday, the computers often become inoperable during normal use. With a normal two or three programs running, these Gateways often (not to mention the five year old Compaq relics in the other room) lockup within minutes of use. Then I get caught in the reboot and change computer game; habitually the computers win with me unfinished with the task at hand after three rounds within thirty minutes. A possible solution to reboot tag would be an upgrade of Random Access Memory and conversion to Windows XP, a more stable operating core. Also, while I’m on the idea of stability, the addition of a few Apple Computers around campus would be nice to appease users other than professors. Their latest operating system, OS X, is currently the most user friendly, fastest, and most stable platform in the world. So, if anyone in the Information Technology Systems department is listening, these are some areas of focus that many of us would like to be looked into further. I’d be willing to offer some assistance.

David J. Michaels
Sophomore, Tulsa
Pre-Pharmacy

Editors Note: A current task underway for campus technology improvement is the inclusion of internet access in the dorms, as most campus issues are determined by cost. Another good solution is to gather others with the same concerns and address our SGA. As many are interested in solving the same issue. We always make a greater impact when in numbers.



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Movie Review

A Walk to Remember

A *Walk to Remember* is both a refreshing and down-to-earth romantic movie where innocence has a place and forgiveness actually does happen. This movie is based on a book by Nicholas Sparks, who wrote the novel *Message in a Bottle* (also made into a movie). Mandy Moore plays Jamie Sullivan, a “goody-two shoes” who really gets to know the “bad boy” Landon Carter, played by Shane West.



Landon, who was responsible for causing injury to another guy, must tutor students and take part in a school play production. Even though they knew one another all their lives, only now do Jamie and Landon begin a real friendship together. This relationship becomes romantic, with a few twists. *A Walk to Remember* is a radical film. Our culture uses satire and irony as the most prevalent comments on society. Everyone’s a cynic. The 1950s churned out this “family fare” where no one has any real problems and everyone’s basically a good person. The 1960s, the foundation for this era’s cynicism, questioned everything and threw out the idealized world the 1950s presented. The 1950s world was unreal and fake, and the 1960s knew this. This movie takes those virtues such as faith, redemption, innocence, virginity, and forgiveness and puts them in the new millennium by dealing with actual issues. This is not the candy-caned world of Andy Griffith and that generation. This is a world where teenage pregnancy is common, alcohol abuse prevalent, and positive role models are hard to come by. This is a world where there’s of anger and hate. *A Walk to Remember* gives us this world, but it is also a place where couples believe in sex only in marriage. It’s where Bible-believing conservatives are real people who love one another and have an open mind, and their values are not given the stereotypical cynical slant. This is a movie that actually uses profanity for a purpose, to give texture and character, which most movies do not do. Most movies now have profanity just to have it in there. *A Walk to Remember* uses profanity because the characters it describes would use profanity. Just as the it uses profanity to describe people, *A Walk to Remember* also gives us a young woman who truly believes in Christ, who loves her father dearly, and a young man who is touched very deeply by this young woman. In an age which is as cynical and skeptical as ours, this movie is indeed radical.

-Aaron Clark



Music Review

NIN Live

I am not a typical industrial rock fan. The music reeks of anger and noise, to cover up for a lack of melodies and something useful to say. Just leave me and my Pearl Jam, Radiohead and 70’s rock alone. But in my heart is a place; tucked away and behind a closed door, for Nine Inch Nails. This is the place where Trent Reznor alone creates his music. Only this time the 17th version of Reznor’s ideas are performed by himself with four other musicians. *And All That Could Have Been* is the first live album by the Grammy award winning, one-man band. It is like most live albums; full of hit songs and fans favorites. The catch here is that Reznor is not entirely in control. The audience screaming in front of him makes him sing a note a little louder, play a chord harder, and allow his band to improvise his compositions. Of course the production work on the songs is perfect sound quality, but the best thing to listen for is how tight the band is. “Terrible Lie” opens the album, and it’s as terrible as ever. Other standouts include “The Frail” and “The Wretched,” which are better here as a pair than when originally recorded. “Head Like a Hole” was the song that launched NIN in 1989, and it undoubtedly now sounds like a violent throw away from *Miami Vice*, but the lyrics ring true as do the relentless synths.

NIN’s biggest hit, “Closer,” is recorded here more eerie and ravenous than ever. This song definitely benefits from the band, sounding less mechanical with great guitar work taking the spotlight along with the familiar drum beat. To end it all is the rawest song in the Nine Inch Nails catalogue, “Hurt.” Reznor has always built his wall of sound to be a neo-Pink Floyd, but this song live shows how much thought is behind that wall. It’s melody, it’s emotion, and it’s just solid song writing. I always sing along with that chorus when it starts, “And you could have it all/My empire of dirt...” It’s nothing less than poetry, with a strumming guitar and drums slamming a slow but unstoppable beat. Since the band is performing so well on this album, *And All That Could Have Been* is such an ironic title that it seems to fit. As with other recordings, there is a companion album: *Still*. Reznor reminds us where his roots are. *Still* is full of the classical piano that Reznor is trained in, and includes a desire-stained version of the song “Something I Can Never Have.” “The Becoming” and “Gone, Still” are clever songs, full of life that Reznor has been accused of not having. These albums are a great way to introduce you to the mind and music of Nine Inch Nails/Trent Reznor. It’s too industrial at times, and unusually classical at others, but that’s the most appealing aspect to the sound, especially these albums. Four and a half out of five stars.

-Jason Sullivan



Concert Review

LINKIN PARK

Linkin Park, one of today’s most heard hard rock bands, made a visit last week to the Oklahoma City fairgrounds for the Projekt Revolution tour featuring Cypress Hill and DJ-Ztrip. I was excited about going to any concert, especially one that would be as energetic as Linkin Park. Along with friend, Mac, we strolled into the city to grab a quick bite at the fine dining of Hooters hot wings. Proceeding onto the fairgrounds, we found adequate parking approximately a mile away from the entrance. Now I’ve been to many concerts in my day, but never one so “high” security as this one. Not even Rockfest, with close to eight bands playing, was quite as strict. As we found our way to the floor, I was amazed at the amount of what Mac calls “kool aid drinkers” or teeny boppers were present. Granted Linkin Park aims for that age group but you’d be amazed at the amount of mini vans lining the curb outside the front doors. Nonetheless, we mingled our way into the middle of the floor with the numerous shirtless sweaty gentlemen and not to mention the pierced ladies who joined in on the lack of tops, who were cheering on Cypress Hill’s presentation of a giant bong. I’d never heard Cypress Hill before but despite the cliché bong, it put on a good energy of upbeat tunes. After the Cypress Hill show, Linkin Park was eagerly

anticipated by the cheering swaying crowd. Linkin Park finally took stage after about 20 minutes of chanting and busted out on stage with probably the roughest-looking shortest two guys I’d ever seen lead a band. Of course the usual crowd surfing and moshing began, but that was all mild to the cat-fight that broke out next to us between two very displeased ladies. I’m usually all about getting into the heat of the moment especially at concerts but I was surprised at the amount of anger present. You would think the sheer fact of being at a concert would factor in at some point, you know? On the other hand, I found the band admirable with declarations of crowd control and female crowd surfing etiquette. Being knocked down a few times with rowdy crowd surfers I found several gracious ladies helping me back up before being stampeded. My poor date didn’t quite have the same luck, being violently struck in the head with an out of control boot cruising above. On the brink of unconsciousness, we regained control and enjoyed two versions of “Crawling” due to a fight that broke out on the front row and stopped the first version. The music and environment were exciting and I found myself not minding all the sweaty bodies and bloody lips in the name of some serious jamming. I have a new respect for a new band that I hope has even more success than on their first album. Now only if I could score a T-shirt that I was denied by some bitter man/woman guarding re-entry, I would give them a spot in my top ten concert list.

-Alanna Bradley



Concert Review



“Common Ground”

Riverdancing is becoming a popular form of entertainment and has gained “Common Ground” on the Southwestern Oklahoma State University campus. The show Common Ground featured seventeen performers of young men and women presenting an Irish heritage. The performers brought the best of tap, clogging, ballet, and swing to integrate into what is called riverdance. Full of energy and life the show told a story about Irish immigration through dance. The best dancer I thought was Brad Berry who to some girls was referred to as the tall cute guy who seem to be the lead dancer was phenomenal. There were many solo moments when his twin brother Bryan Berry showed his talents especially showing his “Michael Jackson” moves off such as the moon walk. The costumes were great the music was upbeat. The show even had its funny moments when the cast mimed scenes such as playing basketball. The would pretend to dribble the ball and make the sounds by stamping their feet. The flip side of the show featured vocalist Emily Stine. There were times in here music she had a little bit of a tuning problem. She would sing a little flat when she tended to get into one of her loud gospel like jazz songs. The show was one that left you wanting more and if the opportunity arises to see it again I would encourage it.

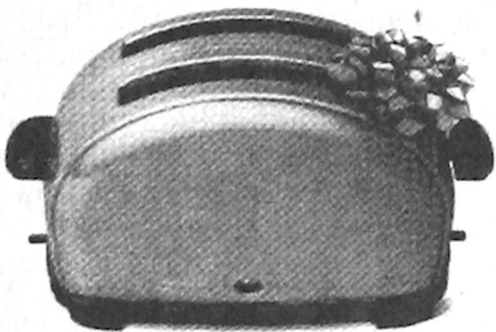
--Jon Owens

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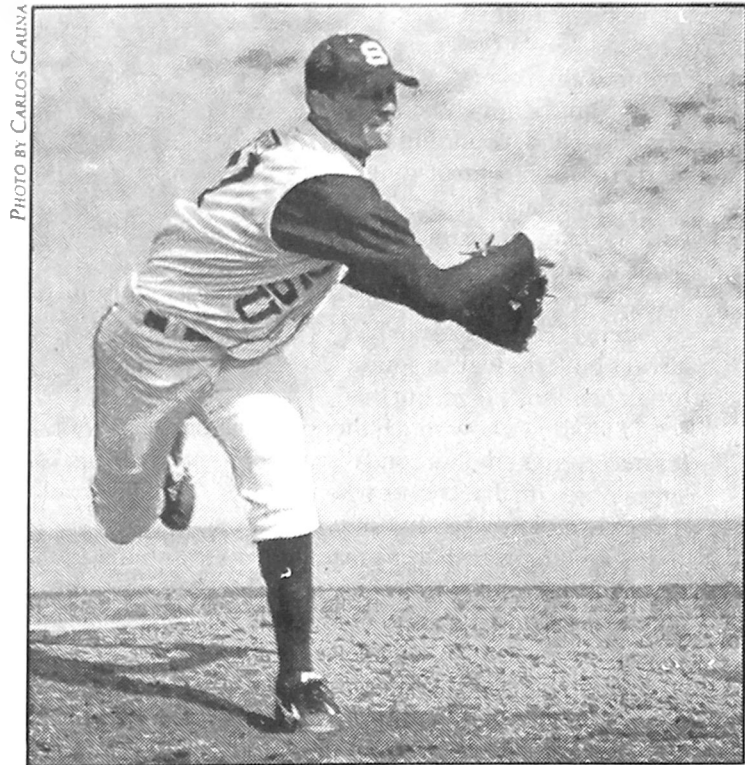
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Bulldog pitcher Brent Hill delivers from the mound against Emporia State. Hill is 1-1 on the year.

Baseball team leads off, races to a 3-2 record

By BRENT HILL/STAFF REPORTER

The Bulldog baseball team started off the 2002 season on the right track, taking two games from Hillsdale Baptist 8-1 and 9-1, in a doubleheader Feb. 12 in Moore.

Brent Hill started the first game of the year throwing six innings and recording eight strikeouts. Junior reliever Chad Despain came in to finish the seventh, getting three ground balls to finish the game.

In the first inning, Josh Killhoffer ripped a two run double to get the Bulldogs a 2-0 lead. Josh was 2-for-4 on the day with 2 RBI. Three other Bulldog hitters had two hits in the win.

Game two was about the same as the Bulldogs dominated. Senior Wes Sparks took the mound, allowing only four hits and one run in six innings. Sparks struck out four and walked one. Senior reliever Kip Peck came in to finish out the seventh, striking out the side to end the game.

Junior right fielder Justin King went 2-for-4 on the game, ripping a two run double in the second inning. King had the hardest hit on the day until senior Marc Williams blasted a two-run homer in the fourth inning.

The first two home games of the year were not pleasant for Southwestern getting beat by Emporia State in both games 3-2 and 3-1 on Feb. 16.

Senior Marc Williams hit his second home run of the year in the sixth inning. Monty Mayfield pitched six innings, allowing only six hits and two earned runs.

Josh Raney pitched the second game of the doubleheader, throwing only three innings, allowing six hits and three runs. Senior reliever Kip Scott came in relief, giving up only two hits while striking out five in four innings.

On Sunday, the Bulldogs got their revenge, crushing Emporia State 18-13 in nine innings.

Senior Wes Sparks threw six innings, allowing only six hits, five runs and striking out three. In the fourth the Hornets were up 7-4, but Southwestern rallied back in the bottom of the inning when Jake Dillard smashed a two run triple, and senior Daniel Boatman hit an RBI double to tie the game at 7-7.

Brady Hybsha hit a three run homer in the seventh to put the Bulldogs on top 16-13. Senior reliever Kip Peck notched his first win of the year, pitching 2 2/3 innings, allowing only one hit and one walk. Peck had five strikeouts; on the year he has 10 punch-outs in 4 2/3 innings.

The win makes SWOSU 3-2 on the year. The Bulldogs next home game will be on March 8th against Benedictine College at 2 pm.

Athlete Highlight Reel

JOSH STANDIFER BASEBALL

Every team must have one, and Southwestern baseball has theirs. Every athletic team has the vocal and emotional leader, and Josh Standifer does not fill that role. He just isn't much of a talker. Standifer does his talking on the field.

A junior physical education major from Del City, Standifer prefers not to do all the trash talking that many young athletes today have turned to. "I just don't talk that much," Standifer said.

Standifer's introvertedness has not stopped him from making big contributions to the baseball team. He is involved in a four player platoon who roam the outfield for the Bulldogs, and he is the only player on the team to consistently use the thirty two inch Easton Connection.

Standifer has played baseball since he was five, and eventually chose it over basketball and wrestling. "I chose baseball because it's what I liked and what I was best at," Standifer said.

After a stellar high school career in which he received a defensive award his junior year, Standifer continued his

education at Rose State College in Midwest City, where he frequently attended classes and played for the Raiders along with current SWOSU teammates Scott Childers and Marc Williams.

Standifer received his associates degree and decided to play baseball at Southwestern.

"I came here because Marc (Williams) told Scotty (Childers) that it was a cool place to play and coach Teasley was a fun coach to play for," he said.

Standifer has high hopes for this year's addition of Bulldog baseball.

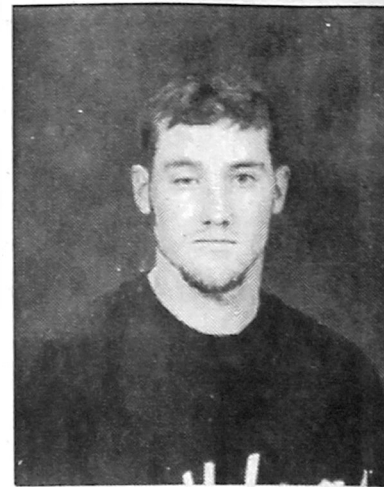
"I think it's going to take us playing well consistently this year for us to win conference," said Standifer.

With the season only a week old, Standifer does not have much time for outside activities, but when he does, he enjoys fishing and occasionally enjoying a tall cool one.

"I plan on coaching, but I've got to graduate first, because school's a lot harder during the season."

With the Bulldogs playing well over 25 games at home this season, the sound of the leather getting pounded with baseball's and the ting of the aluminum bats being heard all over campus, you'll have to listen pretty hard to hear Josh Standifer.

—Matt Morgeson



Bowling a strike at SW Lanes

By KERRI BENTLEY/STAFF REPORTER

When the stress of college gets to be too much, try knocking things down at the bowling alley.

The Southwestern Lanes bowling alley hosts leagues every night except Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Men's leagues are on Mondays and Wednesdays and women's are Tuesdays and Thursdays. All games cost \$2.25 a game.

It is open seven days a week, but opening times vary so people should call before showing up.

"All bowlers are welcome," said owner Carol Martinez. When asked if the bowling alley was up for sale, she said, "That depends."

If anyone has any more questions they can call the bowling alley at 772-2481.

Student works at Davis Cup

By AMBER ESADA/STAFF REPORTER

If you caught the Davis Cup on television, you may have seen Southwestern freshman Brooke Honey sitting with the U.S. team. She was part of a chosen few to help out with the teams.

Brooke's duties at the tournament included giving the players towels, water and helping with whatever the team may need. She also got great seats right behind the team, and worked the entire tournament.

The first round of the Davis Cup tennis tournament was held at the Myriad Convention Center in Oklahoma City Feb. 8-10th.

Brooke had the connections in Oklahoma City to land her the job. She was chosen because she played tennis in high school in the Oklahoma City area.

Honey got to work with both the U.S. and Slovak teams. She got to meet the



Brooke Honey, freshman pre-pharmacy major, landed a job to work at the recent Davis Cup.

entire U.S. team, including team leader Andy Roddick. She said she didn't really talk to the Slovak team because most of them couldn't speak English.

Honey said that she has always wanted to do something like this. "It has been my dream forever to work at a tennis match like this," Honey stated.

Sports Hall of Fame nominees sought

Southwestern is accepting nominations for the SWOSU Athletic Hall of Fame.

Nominations can be sent to Cecil Perkins, Athletic Director, SWOSU, 100 Campus Drive, Weatherford OK 73096 or e-mailed to perkinc@swosu.edu. Nominations are due by April 15.

There are currently 47 former athletes and coaches who have been inducted into the SWOSU Athletic Hall of Fame.

Perkins said candidates must have had an outstanding record as an athlete or coach at Southwestern. In the case of an athlete, the candidate must be a graduate of Southwestern and have a record of achievement in his/her field of endeavor.

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Bulldogs beat Southeastern in a 89-72 finish



The Bulldogs finish the year strong and secured a high spot in the playoffs.

WEATHERFORD, Oklahoma - After a dismal start the Southwestern Oklahoma Bulldogs came alive, using a 35-10 run to overtake the Southeastern Oklahoma Savages, 89-72, in men's Lone Star Conference North Division action, Thurs. night, Feb. 21 at Rankin Williams Field House in Weatherford. With the victory, SWOSU clinches the right to host a first-round LSC Tournament game on Tues., Feb. 26 against a yet to be determined opponent. However, the victory was not as easy as the final score indicated.

In the first half, SWOSU came out flat and sluggish, falling behind by 20 points (30-10) to the Savages. The Bulldogs scored only 10 points in the first ten minutes of the game, while allowing SOSU to shot 50% (7-of-14) from behind the three-point arch.

With 7:13 left in the opening period, Southwestern should signs of life as Milan Pepper drained a jumper to pull the

Bulldogs within 16 points (30-14). After a pair of three-pointers by Kevin Ritter and a put back shot by Cochise Valentine, SWOSU was within 10 points of SOSU (24-34) with 4:20 remaining.

SWOSU outscored the Savages 8-4 over the final moments of the first half, cutting the SOSU halftime lead to 38-32. At the intermission, SOSU had three players in double figures, led by Justin Clemons with 14 points on four-of-five three-point shooting.

In the second half the Bulldogs wasted little time taking command of the game, outscoring the Savages 17-5 over the first six minutes of the second period. SOSU battled back to take a one-point lead (52-51), but it was a short-lived advantage as the Bulldogs used a 10-0 run to regain the lead for good.

Southwestern expanded their lead to as many as 18 points (81-63), before eventually defeating SOSU by 17 (89-72).

Twelve players saw action for the Bulldogs, including freshman Jeff Peters who scored his first collegiate basket with :22 left. Pepper was the story of the day for SWOSU, scoring a team-high 23 points on 9-of-17 shot attempts. Cochise Valentine added his 12th double-double of the year, scoring 17 points and pulling down a team-high 12 rebounds.

Senior Kevin Ritter dropped in 13 points and dished out five assists, while teammate Semaj Johnson reached double figures for only the second time this season with 12 points. Johnson also added four steals, three rebounds and three assists.

SOSU was led by Anthony Walton with 23 points and 13 rebounds, while Justin Clemons finished with 18 and Mark Elazier added 15.

The win improves SWOSU to 16-9 on the year and 9-2 in the LSC North. SOSU falls to 9-16 overall and 2-9 in the division. Southwestern will conclude regular season play on Sun., Feb. 24 with a 4 p.m. matinee against East Central University. The game will follow a 2 p.m. women's game.

"The Glove Box"

STEPHEN GLOVER/SPORTS EDITOR



Gone but never forgotten

February 18, 2002, marked the one year anniversary of the death of the late great Dale Earnhardt, who tragically died on the last lap of the 2001 Daytona 500. Ironically, he died trying to block anyone from interfering with cars that he owned driven by Michael Waltrip and Dale Earnhardt Jr., rather than battling for the lead.

It was also very ironic that Earnhardt died at the same track that brought him so much joy, but so much pain also. Earnhardt spent 20 years of his life trying to win the Daytona 500. He was in position to win numerous times, but lady luck never looked his way.

I can honestly say there hasn't been another individual on the face of this earth that has brought me so much joy from his defeats. While Earnhardt was alive, I hated him with a passion because he raced dirty, but after he died I finally figured out how much I really respected him because of his accomplishments on the track, even though I still disliked him.

Since his death, I've heard people asking when all the talk about Earnhardt is going to stop. I hope it never stops. NASCAR was Dale Earnhardt. NASCAR has a void were arguably the worlds greatest stock car driver once stood and no one will ever take his place.

I don't like to admit it, but I liked NASCAR better when Earnhardt was still alive. That's what NASCAR is all about. Fans have so much loyalty to their favorite driver it's totally unbelievable. Fans have people they absolutely love and people they absolutely hate. NASCAR is different now and it won't ever be the same.

Earlier I mentioned Earnhardt having bad luck. The first defeat I remember seeing first hand was the 1986 Daytona 500. Earnhardt ran out of gas on the last lap with the twinkle of the black and white checkered flag dancing in his eyes only to see Geoff Bodine steal the win.

In 1990, Earnhardt was again in position to win the biggest race of the season, but on the last lap he cut a right rear tire going into turn 3. Derrick Cope went on to collect the 1st of his 2 career wins.

The 1993 Daytona 500 proved to be the Dale and Dale show. Again Earnhardt led most of the race, but in the end Dale Jarrett prevailed by a mere .16 seconds over his rival Dale Earnhardt. Although Jarrett was courteous in the victory lane that day saying he beat the best driver, Earnhardt was somewhat less courteous.

"Big deal, I lost another Daytona 500," he said to reporters as he stormed to his motor home.

Going into the 1994 Daytona 500, Earnhardt won his Gatorade Twin 125 qualifying race, the Busch Clash (now called the Bud Shootout) and the International Race of Champion's race.

All he had left to do was win the 500.

Although Earnhardt had all the prerace attention, it was Sterling Marlin who dominated the entire race. During a late caution, Earnhardt pitted and took four new Goodyear's and restarted the 14th. He quickly charged to the front finishing 2nd to Sterling Marlin. Once again Earnhardt finished 2nd.

"This is the Daytona 500 and I don't reckon I'm supposed to win the thing," Earnhardt said to T.V. crews after the race.

Again, Earnhardt was up front for the start of the 500 in 1996. He won his seventh straight Gatorade Twin 125 qualifying race and the IROC race. It seemed lady luck only took a dislike for Dale in the actual 500 itself. In the closing laps, it came down to another Dale and Dale show just as it had in 1993. Jarrett and Earnhardt raced hard to the checkered, but to no avail Jarrett pulled the win off again and Earnhardt had to settle for the first loser again.

The 1997 Daytona 500, proved Earnhardt had determination and a will to win. In the late stages of the race, Earnhardt skated up the track a little while leading and Jeff Gordon dove low for the pass. Earnhardt brushed the wall, came back and tagged Gordon. While Gordon was able to drive on, Ernie Irvan got into the back of Earnhardt setting of a multi-car melee that saw Earnhardt's car roll end over end numerous times. While in the ambulance, Earnhardt noticed that all 4 tires were still on his beat and battered car. He climbed out of the ambulance and asked the tow truck driver to try starting his car. When it thundered back to life, Dale hopped back in and drove it to the pits, where after some brutal sheet metal surgery, a bunch of bungee cords and a lot of 200 mph tape Earnhardt was back in business.

In 1998, after 20 attempts, Earnhardt finally captured the crown jewel that eluded him for the past 20 years, the Daytona 500. The win was his 71st of his career and came in his 575th Winston Cup start, placing him 7th on the all time win list.

"The Daytona 500 is over and we won it! We won it," Earnhardt said in victory lane.

"This win is for all our fans and all the people who told me, 'Dale this is your year,'" Earnhardt said. "There was a lot of hard work that went into this and I have to thank every member of the Richard Childress Racing Team. I have had a lot of great fans over the years and I just can't thank them enough."

One thing I had never seen before was the fact that every crew member from every race team came out to stand on pit road to congratulate Earnhardt as he made his way to victory lane. This just shows whether you loved him or hated him and let's get this straight, there is no in between with Earnhardt, one thing remained you had to respect him

Over the years, Earnhardt won 7 Winston Cup Championships ('80,'86,'87,'90,'91,'93) tying him with Richard Petty as the only driver ever to accomplish that feat. Earnhardt is the only Winston Cup driver to win the Rookie of the year honors and the Championship in successive years ('79,'80). His career winnings are in excess of 40 million dollars. He was nominated 6 times as the Most Popular Driver ('80,'86,'87,'90,'94,'01). He was the only 3 time winner of NASCAR's all star event "The Winston" ('87,'90,'93). Earnhardt was the only 6 time winner of the Bud Shootout ('80,'86,'88,'91,'93,'95). He was the only four time IROC champion ('90,'95,'99,'00). He is 5th on the all time win list with 76 wins and won a record 10 straight Gatorade Twin 125 qualifying races. In essence, Dale Earnhardt has won nearly every major event and title available to NASCAR Winston Cup drivers, including the Daytona 500.

Please don't mistake me for fan of Dale Earnhardt's, because I thought he was a dirty stock car driver, but you can say this, I respected Dale Earnhardt.

Lady Bulldogs shock Southeastern, 66-56

WEATHERFORD, Oklahoma - In a must win situation, Southwestern Oklahoma stunned the #23 nationally-ranked Southeastern Oklahoma Lady Savages, 66-56, in a Lone Star Conference North Division game on Thurs., Feb. 21 in front of over 1,200 fans.

Needing wins against SOSU and East Central on Sunday to qualify for the LSC Post-Season Tournament, SWOSU played tenacious defense and used a balanced attack to pull their biggest upset of the year.

SWOSU opened a 6-2 lead in the first two minutes of the game, eventually opening the margin to 13 points (25-12) at the 5:52 mark. The Lady Savages silenced the Lady Bulldogs offense for the remainder of the half, however, putting together a 10-0 run to climb within three points (25-22) at the intermission.

SOSU's Brandi Robinson led the charge with 12 first-half points, converting six-of-nine shots from the field, but committed five turnovers compared to only eight team turnovers by Southwestern.

In the second half SWOSU continued their tough defensive ways, allowing SOSU to tie the game only once. The Lady Bulldogs opened up an 11-point lead (41-30) with 9:58 remaining and pushed the margin back to 10 (48-38) at the

6:44 mark.

SWOSU nearly let the lead slip away when Dana Sutton made a fast break lay-up with 3:02 left to play, tying the game at 52-52. It was the capping basket to a 14-4 run, but it was not enough to revive the Lady Savages.

Down the stretch, Southwestern made 10-of-12 free throws to help ice the victory and push the final score to 66-56.

The Lady Bulldogs defeated SOSU in almost every statistical facet of the game, including a 8-3 steal differential. The Lady Bulldogs placed three players in double figures, led by freshman Paige Adams with 14 points and three rebounds. Amanda Burris and Ashlee Hamar each scored 10, recording identical field goals of 4-for-8.

SOSU was led by Robinson with a game-high 25 points, while teammate Tera Newnam added 14 points and pulled down a game-high eight rebounds.

The win was the second in a row for SWOSU, moving the Lady Bulldogs to 12-13 overall and 4-7 in LSC North play. SOSU falls to 21-4 on the year and 9-2 in divisional play. The Lady Bulldogs final regular season home game will be on Sun., Feb 24 at 2 p.m. Southwestern will be hosting East Central and must win in order to advance to the LSC Post Season Tournament.

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THE LITTLE ZEN CORNER

Editor's quote of the week

"If a man is unhappy, remember that his unhappiness is his own fault, for God made all men to be happy..."

~Epictetus

Zen~where the best moment is now, where things are what they seem to be, where we see with the refreshing directness of a child and not through eyes grown stale from routine.

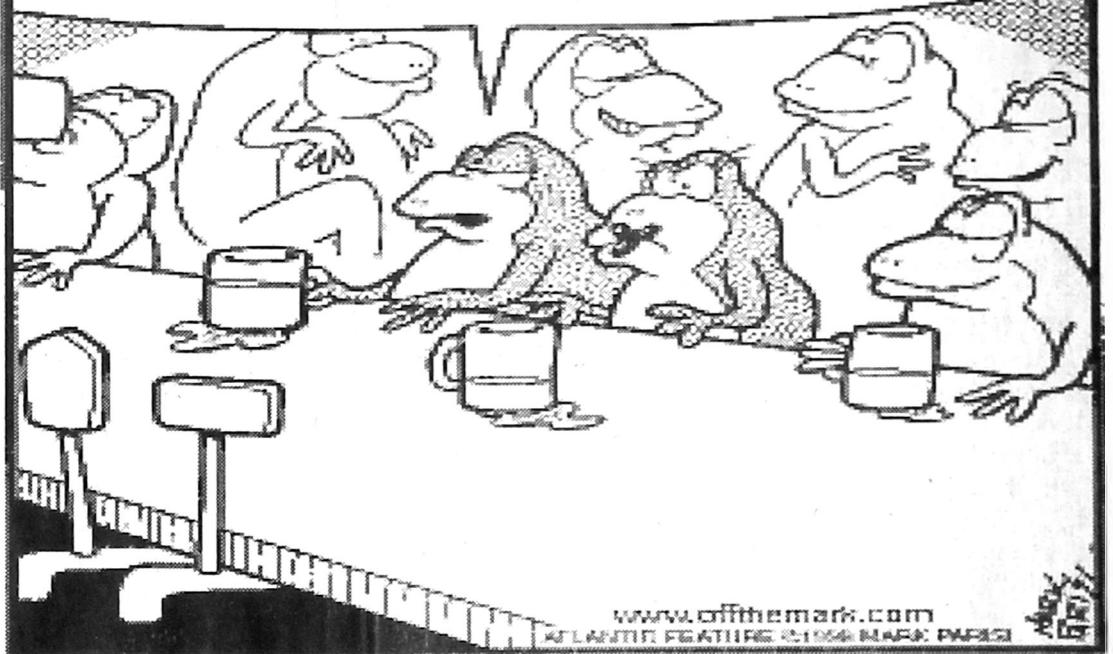
Selections from "Zen Soup"

off the mark

by Mark Parisi

www.offthemark.com

YUP, I RECALL THAT SCENE IN "JURASSIC PARK"... A GUY SAYS SOME BALONEY ABOUT FROGS SPONTANEOUSLY CHANGING GENDERS IF PUT IN A SINGLE-SEX ENVIRONMENT... WHAT'S YOUR POINT, RALPH?



WORD SEARCH

Olympic Games

N W I Q U A J W V X P R P P W T H C H
B Q A Y R C P W G M I Q M O H K E N M
Q R X Q M I K O P E V X G H P G Q W Y
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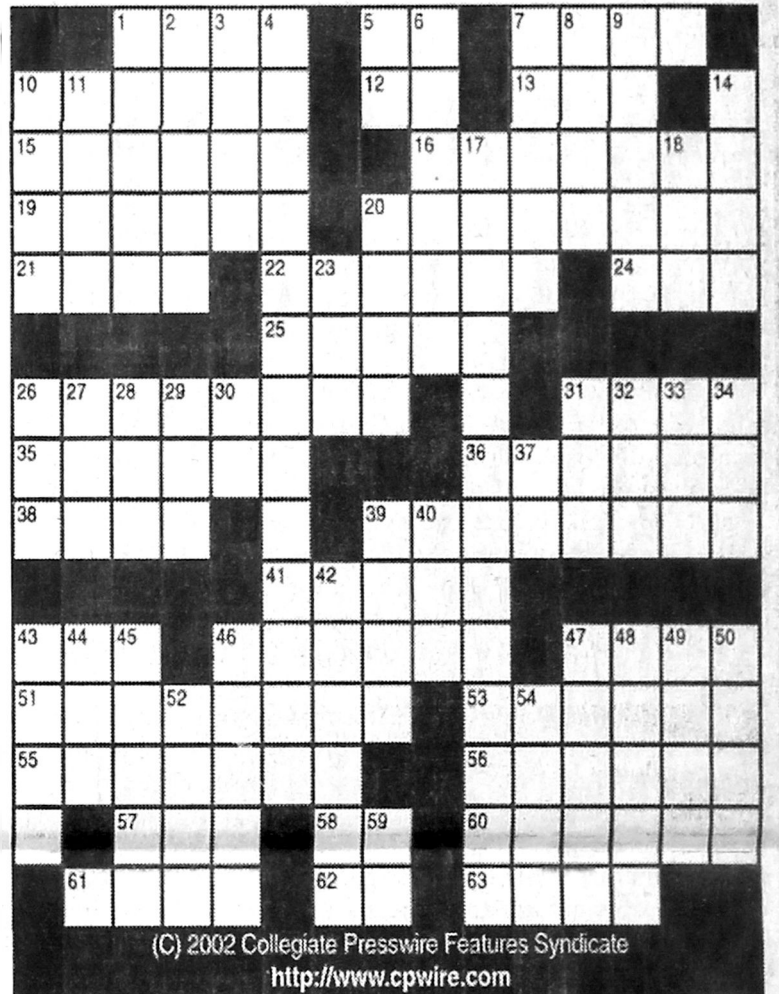
February 25, 2002

ACROSS

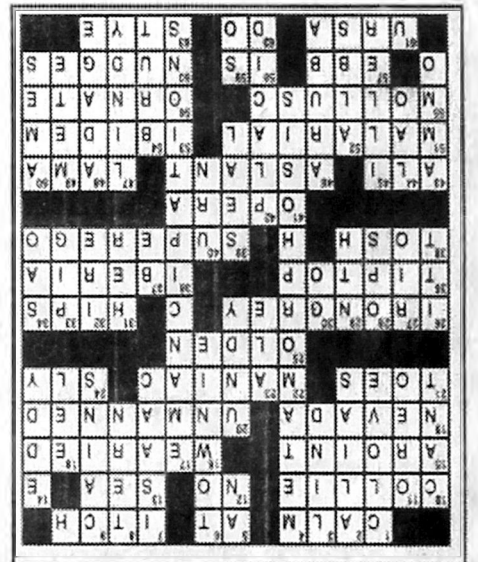
- Before the storm
- "She'll be there _____ 3 p.m."
- Seven year _____
- Lassie
- Opposite of Yes
- There are seven
- Begone! (Imperative verb)
- Mentally exhausted
- State next to California
- Without people
- A ballerina dances here
- Madman
- Wily
- Long ago times
- Hair color
- Rose _____
- The highest point
- Spain and Portugal
- To neaten
- The conscience
- Carmen, e.g.
- Baha
- Obliquely
- Tibetan priest
- Unwholesome
- "In the same book"
- A clam
- Overly showy
- A tide
- Present indicative of he
- Prods
- A major star
- Hair style
- Eye ailment

DOWN

- Piece of garlic
- False name
- Opera singer Jerry
- Change from one stage to another
- Actinon chemical symbol
- One not living on campus
- Manadino Editor of "Sports Night"
- Sea bird
- Percentages of Irish farm crops
- Whining speech
- Nabisco cookie
- Whirl
- States of being free
- Elongated fish
- One puts this on first
- Malt beverage
- Hotel parent company
- "Learn it to"
- Roman Goddess of plenty
- A degree
- Pass this and get \$200
- Female
- Rage
- Young swine
- Portuguese saint
- To occupy a space
- A stamp
- Where ashes lie
- A NY lake
- Military supplies
- A people of Northern Thailand
- Sicker
- Island in the New Indies
- A 30's dance
- A traditional saying
- Allot
- Singing brothers
- Priestly garments
- After shave brand



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